

### REMARKS

The Examiner has indicated that Claim 1-11 and 28 are allowed and that Claims 13-15, 21, 22, 31, 32, 35, 36 and 44 are objected to as dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has Amended Claims 12 to include all the limitations of objected-to Claim 13 (which has been canceled) and Claims 14, 15 and 18-22 depend therefrom. Therefore, Applicant believes that Claims 1-12, 14, 15 and 18-22 should be allowed.

Applicant has Amended Claim 31 to recite the previous claim 31 in independent form. Claims 32-26 depend therefrom. Therefore, Applicant believes that Claims 31-36 should be allowed.

Applicant has Amended Claim 37 to recite the previous claim 44 (which has been canceled) in independent form. Claims 38-43 depend therefrom. Therefore, Applicant believes that Claims 37-43 should be allowed.

### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Applicant respectfully submits that this Amendment, in view of the Remarks offered in conjunction therewith, is fully responsive to all aspects of the objections and rejections tendered by the Examiner in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully submits that he has demonstrated that the above-identified Patent Application, including Claims 1-12, 14-15, 18-22, 28 and 31-36, is in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited.

No fee is believed to be required in connection with this Amendment, as the total number of Claims and the number of independent claims is less than the numbers with which the application was filed. However, if there are any fees incurred by this Amendment Letter, please deduct them from our deposit account No. 23-0830.

Respectfully submitted,



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